

COUNTY OF NASSAU DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS 1194 PROSPECT AVENUE WESTBURY, NEW YORK 11590-2723

So Kids, just what do we mean by "Storm Water Management"????



Well, first we need to understand what "Storm Water" is and where it goes in order to "manage" it.

Rainfall makes storm water. Storm water is the water that runs down the street when it is raining. A lot of rain makes a lot of storm water. Storm water leave the road and enters our waterways through holes along the curb called "Storm drains".



So, why do we need to manage the storm water?

Storm water needs to be managed in two ways: (1) The amount of water on the street, if too much, can cause flooding, and (2) The water that goes into the drain needs to be as clean as possible.

Let's talk about keeping water clean!

Why do we need to keep storm water clean?

After storm water enters the storm drain, the water flows to Invtech.com the Long Island Sound, the south shore bays and the Atlantic Ocean or to a storage basin "Sump". To get to these places, the storm water is carried by underground pipes, and/or flows through the streams and ponds in the County. Storm water that is directed to storage basins or "sumps" replenishes the groundwater supply - which is the source of our drinking water. Any "pollutant" that can be carried in the storm water will affect our environment and us.

What pollutants can be carried by storm water?

Pretty much anything that is on sidewalks, the grass, and the streets can wash into the storm drain. Some examples include:



Trash and Litter



Over Use of Lawn
Chemicals

Oil and Chemicals





Animal Waste







Sand and Sediment

How do Pollutants in storm water affect our environment and us?

Our beaches are closed to swimming, shellfishing is not permitted and the habitats for aquatic animals disappear when the water is unclean.



Frogs

Fish



Sea Birds



Turtles